

Playing
Time:
49:43

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8.559630



Walter
PISTON
(1894-1976)

String Quartets Nos. 1, 3 and 5

String Quartet No. 1 (1933)

- | | | |
|----------|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | I. Allegro | 17:25 |
| 2 | II. Adagio | 6:22 |
| 3 | III. Allegro vivace | 8:00 |
| | | 3:03 |

String Quartet No. 3 (1947)

- | | | |
|----------|---------------------|--------------|
| 4 | I. Allegro | 15:22 |
| 5 | II. Lento | 5:05 |
| 6 | III. Allegro | 5:13 |
| | | 5:05 |

String Quartet No. 5 (1962)

- | | | |
|----------|---------------------|--------------|
| 7 | I. Allegro | 16:56 |
| 8 | II. Adagio | 4:41 |
| 9 | III. Allegro | 8:05 |
| | | 4:09 |

Harlem Quartet

Ilmar Gavilán, Violin • Melissa White, Violin
Juan-Miguel Hernandez, Viola
Desmond Neysmith, Cello

Recorded at St. Anne's Church, Toronto, Canada,
from 12th-14th November, 2008

Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver

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AMERICAN CLASSICS

Much lauded in his lifetime, Walter Piston is remembered chiefly today for his eight *Symphonies*, the two *Violin Concertos* (8.559003) and the popular ballet, *The Incredible Flutist* (8.559160). This recording presents three of the five string quartets, which range from the lithe neo-Classicism of the *First Quartet* and the rhythmic trenchancy and intense melodic writing of the *Third Quartet* to the forceful yet accessible *Fifth*. This is the Naxos début of the Harlem Quartet, an ensemble comprising First-Place Laureates of the Sphinx Competition for young Black and Latino string players. More of Piston's chamber music is available on 8.559071.

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